Faculty Compliance with Accessible Media Laws

As we endeavor to get College of Marin into compliance with Section 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, I just wanted to remind everyone of a few things.

Section 508:1194.24: “All training and informational video and multimedia productions which support the agency’s mission, regardless of format, that contain speech or other audio information necessary for the comprehension of the content, shall be open or closed captioned.”

Any NEW videos or DVDs being ordered should be closed captioned. If the materials are not closed captioned, an attempt should be made to find equivalent materials which do comply. If no such alternative is available, we can send the material out to be closed captioned or, in an “emergency,” closed caption it ourselves.

Any OLD videos should be replaced or captioned. We have categorical funds from Sacramento to cover this. We regularly send out batches of videos for closed captioning; now might be a good time to review your classroom materials to see if there are any tapes we can take care of. (If any of these are irreplaceable, we will make back-up copies BEFORE we send them out, to avoid the possibility of disastrous losses.)

All publishers selling to California Community Colleges are required, on request, to make available e-text versions of printed materials. It is NOT your responsibility to acquire these e-text versions, but it would be good to remind publishers with whom you deal that such a request may be forthcoming should a student with a verified disability express such a need, and to ascertain whether the publisher is prepared to comply.

Please contact me with any questions. Thank you.

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